

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SB 1700 – HB 1896**

March 15, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires any voting system purchased or leased with federal, state or local funds to provide the ballot of record to be a paper ballot marked by the voter, with appropriate accommodation for persons with disabilities. Requires such ballot to be available to the voter to verify the vote and requires the system to maintain the secrecy of the voter's choices. The county election commissions are authorized to expedite the replacement or modification of any systems not in compliance as soon as practical.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures\* - \$9,535,000 One-Time**

Assumptions:

- According to the State Coordinator of Elections, it is assumed that the intent of the bill would be to require all counties to replace or retrofit all equipment immediately since the bill authorizes the Secretary of State, the State Election Commission, and the counties to expedite the replacement or modification of all systems not in compliance with this act as soon as practical.
- All 95 counties would have to either retrofit or replace voting equipment to comply with the requirement of this bill.
- The cost to retrofit or replace all DRE voting machines to provide a voter verified paper trail is estimated to be a one-time cost of \$9,535,000.
- Cost to replace 1,650 Diebold machines @ \$500 each = \$825,000.
- Cost to replace 2,100 Harp machines @ \$900 each = \$1,890,000.
- Cost to replace 2,500 ES&S machines @ \$800 each = \$2,000,000.
- Cost to replace 725 MicroVote 464 machines @ \$4,000 each = \$2,900,000.
- Cost to retrofit 2,400 MicroVote Infinity machines @ \$800 each = \$1,920,000.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



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James W. White, Executive Director